

The National View

Villa Next?—General Funston's report that Villa had been in Chihuahua, as he said he would, has fraternized with the Carranza officers and that he walked out without bloodshed but taking a large part of the Carranza force who went back to their former idol has raised the question if, after all, President Wilson will return to his first love—the bandit, Villa. When Mr. Wilson was devoting the entire strength of the United States, including its army and navy, to investing Vera Cruz and driving Huerta out of office, it will be recalled, he was enamored of Villa and regarded him as "patriot" and as the savior of Mexico. It was merely the trend of military events in Mexico which compelled Mr. Wilson to turn to Carranza and make him the "de facto government"; but in view of Carranza's ingratitude and Villa's military prowess, it would not occasion much surprise to see the president return to his first love. Of course, the facts are that both men are unspeakable bandits who have committed and sanctioned every crime in the category and whose hands are all red with the blood of American men, women and children, as well as with that of their own fellow countrymen. From a military standpoint, Villa's increasing strength constitute a grave menace to Pershing's column. Mr. Wilson announced that he was sending Pershing into Mexico "to get Villa." He has since announced that Villa's hand has been practically exterminated. Villa has promptly demonstrated the falsity of the second announcement and Mr. Wilson himself proved the falsity of the first. But no one has been able to explain why Pershing's force is weakly maintained in Mexico, idle and in constant danger. It is about time for Mr. Wilson to change his mind.

Carranza's Ultimatum.—Carranza's delegates at New London have informed the American delegates that their chief will not permit any more fooling and that they will not even discuss the proposed loan to Mexico until

American troops are withdrawn from Mexican territory. No progress has been made by the New London conference, and none will be made, it is authoritatively announced, until the American troops are withdrawn. An immense quantity of money is being expended by the United States "entertaining" the Mexican delegates and their suites, for no apparent purpose except a vain effort to promote Mr. Wilson's political fortunes on election day. Every diplomatic expedient is being resorted to by Secretary Lane and his fellow delegates to avert an abrupt rupture of the relations and the calling off of the conference, but the Mexicans have received their instructions and positively refuse seriously to discuss any subject except the withdrawal of Pershing's command. Meanwhile, the administration believes, or pretends to believe, that Villa's activities make that step steadily less practicable.

What Wilson Did.—Governor Hughes discussing the question as to whether he would have recognized Huerta, has declared that it was within the province of the administration, it being in possession of all the facts, to determine whether or not Huerta should be recognized, but he has declared in unequivocal terms that there was no warrant whatever for Mr. Wilson's course in interfering in Mexican affairs and insisting upon the elimination of Huerta. In proof that Mr. Wilson did adopt that course, Mr. Hughes quotes a secret message sent to John Lind by President Wilson which reads: "Huerta will be put out if he does not get out. It is the preference of the president that it should be accomplished by domestic means if possible, but if it cannot be done by domestic means, other means adequate for the purpose will be resorted to."

Instead of protecting American citizens in their lives and property, says Mr. Hughes, "we intermeddled with Mexican affairs in a way which forfeited us the esteem that we should have enjoyed, and finally resulted in

leaving Mexico to the ravages of revolution, without protecting our citizens or the citizens of any other country. We left them to an anarchy which was indescribable and to atrocities which will not bear repetition in polite society."

Those Canadian sentries who searched the car of Mr. Hughes for explosives missed the bombs he has ready to drop into the Democratic camp.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The New York Sun says that Daniels is the issue, but our opinion is that the Democrats will, in company with several other so called issues, duck this one. Daniels is too difficult a proposition to defend.

Secretary Redfield has presented another of those living illustrations of the old adage that "fools rush in where angels fear to tread," with one important modification. The difference in the Secretary's case is that he walked right in and turned around and was kicked right out again.

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OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT OF TRI-STATE

Latest Reports of Operations in West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

The week ended closed one very quiet in the eastern oil fields. No change has been made in the market price of crude oil now for more than five weeks and it will take an increase in the price of crude to stimulate activities in the search for new producing territory.

The completions during the week had all been confined to known districts and with one exception no field has brought in better than light oil producers or gas wells. The new Thirty foot development on Den's run, in Mannington district, Marion county, is the only producing field which has attracted more than ordinary attention during the week. In that field, Hoffman and Hickman agitated their third test well on the Alfred Kendall farm and in the twenty-four hours ending Saturday morning the well produced 600 barrels. When drilled in about ten days ago this well started off with a production of 296 barrels in twenty-four hours. An important test for this field is being drilled 2,000 feet east of the No. 3 Kendall on the J. L. Rex farm by the South Penn Oil Company. They are now drilling on top of the sand at this well and should be in the pay very early this week.

In the Berea grit development, on Longbottom run, in Cabin Creek district, Kanawha county, the United Fuel Gas Company has drilled its second test well on the Imperial Coal Company's tract, through the sand and it is showing for a very light producer. The well will be given a shot before being put to pumps. The location is about 1,600 feet southeast of the same company's initial test well on this tract, which is still producing at the rate of ten barrels per day.

In Smithfield district, Roane county, the South Penn Oil Company has completed its No. 15 well on the M. L. Farrell farm and has a fifteen barrel per day producer in the Big Injun sand.

In Walton district, same county, the South Penn Oil Company has completed its No. 9 on the Mary J. Gibson farm and has a fifteen barrel per day producer in the Big Injun sand. This well is located 500 feet northeast of the same company's initial test well on this property and is on the waters of McCowan's creek.

In Tennille district, Harrison county, the South Penn Oil Company has completed its No. 6 well on the J. T. Goodwin farm and has a five barrel per day producer in the Gordon sand.

In the Griffithville field, on Tango creek, Duval district, Lincoln county, the Wayland Oil and Gas Company has completed its No. 7 well on the James A. White farm to the Berea sand and it is showing for a five barrel per day producer.

On the waters of Pinch creek, in Elk district, Kanawha county, the Ohio

initial test well on the Telitha Gillespie farm and increased its production to five barrels per day from the Weir sand.

On Sam's Branch, in Duval district, Lincoln county, the Big Creek Development Company has completed its No. 26 well on the M. Spurlock farm and has a fifteen barrel per day producer in the Berea sand.

On the West Fork river, in Union district, the Hope Natural Gas Company has completed its well on the Abe Lowther farm through the Gordon sand and has a ten barrel per day producer.

On Sear's run, the Ohio Natural Gas Company on through the Injun sand at its initial test well on the Louisa Short farm, in Washington district, Calhoun county, and found that formation dry. On Hardway run, in the same district and county, the Hope Natural Gas Company has a rig up for an initial test well on the I. A. Isenhardt farm.

New Work Starting.
On Frozen Camp, in Curtis district, Roane county, the United Fuel Gas Company has a rig up for an initial test well on the C. H. Parrish farm and also have a rig built for a first test well on the David A. Ice farm, located on Elk Fork, in the same district and county. On Boggs Fork, Spencer district, Roane county, the same company has a location made for an initial test well on the J. A. Segent farm and a rig completed for a first test on the J. B. Caste farm.

On Elk Lick, in Sardis district, Harrison county, the Sylvan Oil Company is drilling a second test well on the Charles Lanham farm. On Katyleik, in the same district and county, the Peerless Carbon Company has a location made for No. 5 well on the Ward and Post farm. On the same waters, in the same district and county, the Philadelphia Gas Company has a rig up for an initial test well on the William G. Allen farm. On Scaffold run, in Spencer district, Roane county, Godfrey L. Cabott is drilling an initial test well on the J. H. Burgess farm and has a rig completed for a second test well on the same farm.

Southeastern Ohio.
The Ohio fields report very few completions. In the deep sand territory, in Rush creek township, Fairfield county, Wiggins, Irick and Duffield have completed their initial test well on the Mrs. Lucy Rutherford farm and it is a duster. This test was located 1,200 feet from the company's completed third test well on the Isabelle Myers

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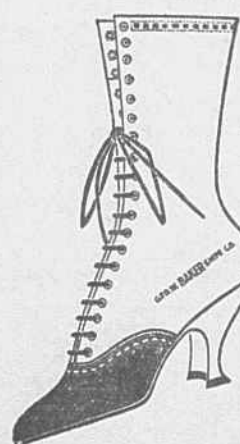


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